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September 15, 1998

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By [Signature]



PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 016249-000810

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SAUNDERS ET AL.

Application No.: 08/956,349

Filed: October 23, 1997

For: METHOD FOR ANALYZING DNA
FROM A RARE CELL IN A CELL
POPULATION

Examiner: Joyce Tung

Art Unit: 1634

PETITION TO EXTEND TIME UNDER
37 CFR §1.136(a)

#54098
9-24-98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant petitions the Assistant Commissioner of Patents to extend the time for response to the Office Action, dated March 19, 1998 for three months, from June 19, 1998 to September 19, 1998. An appropriate response to the Office Action in the form of a Amendment is enclosed herewith.

Please charge \$475.00, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.17, to the Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the above Deposit Account. This Petition is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Randolph T. Apple
Reg. No. 36,429

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